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EXAMINER

QUINONES, EDEL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2131

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7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/594,304

Applicant(s)

MITCHELL ET AL.

Examiner

Edel H Quinones

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

III. Detailed Action

1. Claims 1-42 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claim 1, 5, 11-12, 37-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter).

In regards to claim 1 and 5, Brown teaches a system for updating keys (i.e. the keymaster 442 provides encryption keys to the GS 416, WDPS 414, and Internet Server 418) (col. 10, lines 23-24) that decrypt login tickets (i.e. the WGPS decrypts the ticket using the key) (col. 3, lines 21-22) that log a user into multiple sites (i.e. if the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request) (col. 3, lines 4-5), the method comprising:

generating a first key having a first version number (i.e. timestamp) (i.e. the WGPS 414 uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58);

providing tickets encoded consistent with the first key (i.e. the resulting encrypted ticket is passed 624 to the client) (col. 12. line 38), the ticket having a version number corresponding to

the first version number (i.e. other information, such as the IP address of the client 112 and a timestamp may also be stored in the ticket 800) (col. 12, lines 20-22);

generating a second key having a second version number (i.e. the keymaster 442 issues a new key to the servers 414, 416, 418 at the expiration of the previous key. Each key is preferably indexed so that the keys can be individually identified) (col. 10, lines 34-37); and

when the second key becomes current at a site, providing tickets encoded consistent with the second key, the ticket having a version number to the second version number (i.e. the keymaster 442 occasionally shares 710 a secret key with the GS 416 and the WGPS 414 via an SSL connection. Returning to Fig. 6, the GS 416 preferably uses a symmetric encryption technique to encrypt 622 the ticket 800, T, with the shared secret key to produce an encrypted ticket, T'.) (col. 12, lines 23-38).

In regards to claim 11 and 12, Brown teaches a system for updating keys (i.e. the keymaster 442 provides encryption keys to the GS 416, WDPS 414, and Internet Server 418) (col. 10, lines 23-24) that decrypt login tickets (i.e. the WGPS decrypts the ticket using the key) (col. 3, lines 21-22) that log a user into multiple sites (i.e. if the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request) (col. 3, lines 4-5), the method comprising: generating a new key with an incremented version number (i.e. timestamp) (i.e. the WGPS 414 uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58); sending the new key to a partner site for use in decoding tickets with the incremented version number (i.e. the keymaster 442 provides encryption keys to the GS 416, WDPS 414, and Internet Server 418) (col. 10, lines 23-24); updating key and version information for a login server (i.e. the keymaster 442 occasionally shares 710 a secret key with the GS 416

and the WGPS 414 via an SSL connection) (col. 12, lines 23-25); and generating tickets decodable by the new key when an indication that a key having a previous version number has expired (i.e. the PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster) (col. 3, lines 15-17). The Examiner considers a timestamp a type of incremented version number.

In regards to claim 37 and 41 Brown teaches a system of logging on to multiple sites (i.e. a method and system that authenticates users and authorizes the users to access a walled garden of network services) (col. 2, lines 15-17), the method comprising:

sending a first login ticket to a desired site (i.e. to access the walled garden 420, the client must present a "ticket") (col. 8, lines 13-14), wherein the login ticket is encrypted (i.e. the resulting encrypted ticket is passed to the client) (col. 12, line 38) to be decoded by a first key having a first version number (i.e. the WGPS uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket. Then the WGPS 414 uses the secret key to decrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58);

receiving an indication that the first key has expired (i.e. if the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request) (col. 3, lines 4-6);

obtaining a second login ticket from an authentication server (i.e. in response to a denial, the client sends a message to the GS requesting a ticket) (col. 3, lines 7-8), wherein the second login ticket is encrypted consistently with a new key having a second version number (i.e. the PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster) (col. 3, lines 15-17); and

sending the second login ticket to the site to log into the site (i.e. then, the client sends the WGPS a new request to access a service in the walled garden and includes the ticket) (col. 3, lines 20-21).

In regards to claim 38, Brown teaches that the tickets contain a version number which is readable without decryption (see figure 8, # 812). Brown also teaches that “in an alternative embodiment, the GS 416 encrypts only the portion of the ticket containing the bits representing the user access rights 816” (col. 12, lines 28-30).

In regards to claim 39, Brown teaches wherein the version number is a one digit Hex integer (i.e. the version number 812 is preferably a control number used by the GS 416 to ensure that the WGPS 414 properly interprets the ticket 800) (col. 12, lines 8-10). The Examiner infers from the above that the control numbers used by the GS 416 could thus include numbers consisting of one digit Hex integers.

In regards to claim 40, Brown teaches wherein the encrypted ticket comprises an unencrypted version number (see claim 38 above), and encrypted information sufficient to log a user into a desired site (i.e. access rights) (figure 8, #816) (i.e. in an alternative embodiment, the GS 416 encrypts only the portion of the ticket containing the bits representing the user access rights 816) (col. 12, lines 28-30).

In regards to claim 42, Brown teaches an encrypted ticket for use in logging on to a website (i.e. server), the ticket comprising:

an unencrypted version number (i.e. in an alternative embodiment, the GS 416 encrypts only the portion of the ticket containing the bits representing the user access rights 816) (col. 12, lines 28-30).corresponding to a key version number stored on the website; and

an encrypted string identifying the website and information (i.e. access rights) (fig. 8, #816) (i.e. other information, such as the IP address of the client 112 and a timestamp may also be stored in the ticket 800) (col. 12, lines 20-22), which when decrypted using the key having the same version number (i.e. the WGPS uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket. Then the WGPS 414 uses the secret key to decrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58) authenticates the user for logging the user into the website. The Examiner infers that such other information included in the ticket, in addition to the IP address of the client, could include the address of the website to be accessed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of See et al. (U.S. Patent 6,070,243 and See hereinafter) in further view of Curry et al. (U.S. Patent 6,237,095 and Curry hereinafter).

In regards to claim 2, Brown teaches the method of claim 1 as discussed above.

Brown, however, does not teach that a different key is provided to each site and that each key is encrypted for decoding at one site.

See discloses a system that relates to regulating connectivity to and communicability within communications networks (col. 1, lines 6-7). See teaches that a different key is provided

to each site (i.e. preferably mutual authentication is accomplished through exchange of authentication keys configured on agent 400 and server 320) (col. 5, lines 45-47). The Examiner infers that the same concept of mutual authentication can be expanded to all other agents and servers thus establishing a different authentication key for each pair.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teachings of See to include that a different key is provided to each site with the motivation of combining the user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

The combination of Brown and See, however, does not teach that each key is encrypted for decoding at one site

Curry discloses a method, apparatus and system for transferring money or its equivalent electronically. In particular, in an electronic module based system, the module can be configured to provide at least secure data transfers or to authorize monetary transactions (col. 1, lines 25-28).

Curry teaches that a each key is encrypted for decoding at one site (i.e. He e-mails both the message encrypted with IDEA and the IDEA key encrypted with the user's public key to the user. No one that sees this transmission can read it except the intended recipient because the message is encrypted with IDEA and the IDEA key is encrypted with the intended recipient's public key) (col. 5, lines 37-41)

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Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown and See with the teachings of Curry to include that each key is encrypted for decoding at one site with the motivation of providing security from those who might try to read the user's email (i.e. tickets or messages) remotely (Curry, col. 5, lines 44-45).

4. Claims 3-4, and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of See et al. (U.S. Patent 6,070,243 and See hereinafter).

In regards to claim 3, Brown teaches the method of claim 1 as discussed above.

Brown does not teach further including generating a configuration file to track keys for each site.

See teaches generating a configuration file to track keys for each site (i.e. Means 540 serves to forward for storage and use by a network administrator user tracking information. User tracking information may include, for each login attempt, any information learned from one or more of the following: user identification information, authentication information, user status information, authorized communicability information) (col. 8, lines 49-65). The Examiner interprets "authentication information" as a type of information that might contain keys for each site.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teachings of See to include generating a configuration file to track keys for each site with the motivation of combining the

user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

In regards to claims 4, 6, 9, 10 Brown teaches the system of claim 1 as discussed above.

Brown does not teach that the key comprises key data and executable code for decrypting tickets.

See teaches that the key comprises key data and executable code for decrypting tickets (i.e. An authentication agent is deployed on each of devices 10, 15. Turning to FIG. 4, a functional diagram of an authentication agent 400 residing on device 10 is shown. Agent 400 is preferably a software module implemented by management processor module 210. Agent 400 is configured with an address of device 10, an address of basic server 320 and an authentication key for server 320) (col. 5, lines 29-36).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teachings of See to include a key comprising key data and executable code for decrypting tickets with the motivation of combining the user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

In regards to claim 7, Brown teaches distributing the key to multiple login servers in a secure manner (i.e. preferably, the keymaster 442 has SSL links, or some other form of secure communication links, to the servers 414, 416, 418) (col. 10, lines 24-25).

In regards to claim 8, the combination of Brown and See teaches the method of claim 6 as discussed above.

The combination of Brown and See, as discussed for claim 6, does not teach further comprising updating a configuration file to track keys for each site.

See teaches updating a configuration file to track keys for each site (i.e. Means 540 serves to forward for storage and use by a network administrator user tracking information. User tracking information may include, for each login attempt, any information learned from one or more of the following: user identification information, authentication information, user status information, authorized communicability information) (col. 8, lines 49-65). The Examiner interprets “authentication information” as a type of information that might contain keys for each site.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant’s invention to further modify the combination of Brown and See to include updating a configuration file to track keys for each site with the motivation of combining the user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

5. Claims 13, 15, 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter).

In regards to claim 13 and 16-18, Brown teaches a system of updating a key used to decrypt tickets used to log into a site, the method comprising:

receiving an updated key with a new version number (i.e. the keymaster 442 occasionally shares 710 a secret key with the GS 416 and the WGPS 414 via an SSL connection) (col. 12, lines 23-25);

making the updated key the current key (i.e. the WGSP 414 uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 36-38)

Brown does not teach setting a time for an old current key having an old version number to expire.

Olkin discloses a system that relates generally to providing security for communications in networks such as the Internet (col. 1, lines 6-7). Olkin teaches setting a time for an old current key having an old version number to expire (i.e. The expiration setting 48d allows a sender 12 to specify when the security server 24 (FIG. 1) should discard a message key, and thus make the secure e-mail 14 unreadable. The default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration, but after some substantially long period of time [perhaps years] the security servers 24 in most embodiments of the secure e-mail system 10 will probably need to do so.) (col. 9, lines 25-31).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teachings of Olkin to include setting a time for an old current key having an old version number to expire with the motivation to minimally burden those using it (Olkin, col. 4, lines 33-34).

In regards to claim 15, Brown teaches further comprising redirecting users attempting to log into the site using the old current key (i.e. If, for any reason, the GS 416 decides to invalidate

or revoke a ticket, the GS 416 poisons the ticket by sending 712 an invalidity notice to the WGPS 414 as shown in FIG. 7. The WGPS 414 treats a request to access the walled garden 420 made by a client with a poisoned ticket as if no ticket had been included) (col. 12, lines 43-48). The Examiner infers that it is reasonable to consider the use of the old current key as one of the reasons to invalidate or revoke a ticket. Brown further adds that "If the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request. In response to a denial, the client sends a message to the GS requesting a ticket. The user authenticates himself or herself to the client by providing authentication information and the client provides this information to the GS. Assuming the user is authenticated, the GS uses the PS to look up the user in the database and determine the services in the walled garden to which the user has access. Then, the GS constructs a ticket including a bit field indicating the user's access rights, an expiration date, and other information. The PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster and transmits the encrypted ticket to the client." (col. 3, lines 4-18). In other words, the user is redirected to the GS for re-authorization.

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter) as applied to claim 13 above, in further view of See et al. (U.S. Patent 6,070,243 and See hereinafter).

In regards to claim 14, the combination of Brown and Olkin teaches the method of claim 13 as discussed above.

The combination of Brown and Olkin does not teach that the key comprises executable code for making the updated key the current key.

See teaches that the key comprises executable code for making the updated key the current key (i.e. An authentication agent is deployed on each of devices 10, 15. Turning to FIG. 4, a functional diagram of an authentication agent 400 residing on device 10 is shown. Agent 400 is preferably a software module implemented by management processor module 210. Agent 400 is configured with an address of device 10, an address of basic server 320 and an authentication key for server 320) (col. 5, lines 29-36) (i.e. preferably, mutual authentication is accomplished through exchange of authentication keys configured on agent 200 and server 320) (col. 5, lines 45-47). The Examiner infers that by exchanging mutual keys in order to perform authentication, the agent makes the updated key the current key.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown and Olkin with the teachings of See to include that the key comprises executable code for making the updated key the current key with the motivation of combining the user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

7. Claims 19, 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Biran (U.S. Patent 6,345,347).

In regards to claim 19 and 26, Brown teaches a system for managing keys used to decrypt tickets for logging onto a site, the method comprising:

- receiving a first key with a first version number;
- changing a current key variable to the first version number;
- receiving a new key with an incremented version number; and
- identifying the new key as the current key.

Brown does not teach encrypting the first key and the new key using a hardware address.

Biran discloses a system that implements memory protection (col. 1, line 7). Biran teaches encrypting of keys using a hardware address (i.e. Protection block 48 also holds a numerical key 43 whose value is a function of a physical address 41 of register 40, as shown in a key-entry step 66. The physical address is determined by the physical installation of I/O adapter 38 in computer 46. Thus, the numerical key is hardware-dependent and unique, since register 40 is assigned uniquely to application 34, and since register 40 has a unique hardware address.) (col. 6, lines 45-52).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teachings of Biran to include encrypting the first key and the new key using a hardware address with the motivation of ensuring fully non-contentious addressing between a plurality of applications and a memory (Biran, col. 2, lines 20-22).

In regards to claim 24, Brown teaches wherein a new user using a previous version ticket (i.e. poisoned ticket) will be redirected to obtain a ticket corresponding to the new key following the new key being identified as the current key (i.e. If, for any reason, the GS 416 decides to

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invalidate or revoke a ticket, the GS 416 poisons the ticket by sending 712 an invalidity notice to the WGPS 414 as shown in FIG. 7. The WGPS 414 treats a request to access the walled garden 420 made by a client with a poisoned ticket as if no ticket had been included) (col. 12, lines 43-48). The Examiner infers that it is reasonable to consider the use of the old current key as one of the reasons to invalidate or revoke a ticket. Brown further adds that "If the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request. In response to a denial, the client sends a message to the GS requesting a ticket. The user authenticates himself or herself to the client by providing authentication information and the client provides this information to the GS. Assuming the user is authenticated, the GS uses the PS to look up the user in the database and determine the services in the walled garden to which the user has access. Then, the GS constructs a ticket including a bit field indicating the user's access rights, an expiration date, and other information. The PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster and transmits the encrypted ticket to the client." (col. 3, lines 4-18). In other words, the user is redirected to the GS for re-authorization.

8. Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Biran (U.S. Patent 6,345,347) as applied to claim 19 above, in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter).

In regards to claim 20, the combination of Brown and Biran teaches the method of claim 19 as discussed above.

The combination does not teach setting a time for the first key identifying when such key may no longer be used.

Olkin teaches setting a time for the first key identifying when such key may no longer be used (i.e. The expiration setting 48d allows a sender 12 to specify when the security server 24 (FIG. 1) should discard a message key, and thus make the secure e-mail 14 unreadable. The default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration, but after some substantially long period of time [perhaps years] the security servers 24 in most embodiments of the secure e-mail system 10 will probably need to do so.) (col. 9, lines 25-31).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown and Biran with the teachings of Olkin to include setting a time for the first key identifying when such key may no longer be used with the motivation to provide for highly secured communications (Olkin, col. 4, lines 26-27).

In regards to claim 21, the combination of Brown, Biran and Olkin teaches the system of method 20. Olkin also teaches wherein a user currently logged in may continue to use the first key until the time expires (i.e. The default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration, but after some substantially long period of time [perhaps years] the security servers 24 in most embodiments of the secure e-mail system 10 will probably need to do so.) (col. 9, lines 28-31).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown, Biran and Olkin to include wherein a user currently logged in may continue to use the first key until the time expires with the motivation to minimally burden those using it (Olkin, col. 4, lines 33-34).

In regards to claim 22, Brown teaches wherein a new user may only use a ticket corresponding to the second key when the second key is made the current key (i.e. the PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster) (col. 3, lines 15-17). The Examiner interprets the above to mean that the user can only encrypt a ticket with the key made current by the keymaster. In other words, the user can only encrypt or use a ticket corresponding to a second/new key once that key is made current by the keymaster.

9. Claims 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Biran (U.S. Patent 6,345,347) in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter) as applied to claim 20 above, in further view of Wasserman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,304,969 and Wasserman hereinafter).

In regards to claim 23, the combination of Brown, Biran and Olkin teaches the method of claim 20 as discussed above.

The combination Brown, Biran and Olkin does not teach setting the time to a reauthorization time determined by the site.

Wasserman discloses a system for verifying the authorization of a server to provide network resources to a client (see Abstract). Wasserman teaches setting the time to a reauthorization time determined by the site (i.e. when a security counter, or timer, exceeds the value of an expiration count stored at the client or at other selected times, an authorization interrupt is generated. The authorization interrupt eventually disables some or all of the functions of the client unless the server is authorized within an allotted period of time.) (col. 2, lines 48-57).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown, Biran and Olkin with the teaching of Wasserman to include setting the time to a reauthorization time determined by the site with the motivation to verify the authorization of servers using a security system that cannot be readily accessed or overridden by an operator of the client system. (Wasserman, col. 2, lines 20-24).

10. Claims 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Biran (U.S. Patent 6,345,347) as applied to claim 19 above, in further view of Audebert (U.S. Patent 5,937,068).

The combination of Brown and Biran teaches the method of claim 19 as discussed above.

The combination does not teach that the new key is identified as the current key by changing the current key variable to the second version number.

Audebert discloses a system and method for user authentication employing dynamic encryption variables (see Title) .

Audebert teaches that the new key is identified as the current key by changing the current key variable to the second version number (i.e. The encryption can be performed with the aid of an encryption key which is preferably the value of the current dynamic variable K_n , although any other secret key Q [block 34] may alternatively be used) (col. 9, lines 46-50).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown and Biran with the teaching of Audebert to include that the new key is identified as the current key by changing the current key

variable to the second version number with the motivation to provide improved security against fraud. (Audebert, col. 4, lines 35-36).

11. Claims 27-28, 30-31, 33 and 35-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Audebert (U.S. Patent 5,937,068), in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter).

In regards to claim 27 and 36, Brown teaches a system of updating keys (i.e. the keymaster 442 provides encryption keys to the GS 416, WDPS 414, and Internet Server 418) (col. 10, lines 23-24) used to decrypt tickets (i.e. the WGPS decrypts the ticket using the key) (col. 3, lines 21-22) used to log into multiple sites on a network (i.e. if the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request) (col. 3, lines 4-5), the method comprising:

generating a new key with a new version number (i.e. timestamp) (i.e. the WGPS 414 uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58) to take the place of an old key with an old version number;

storing the new key on a site to be logged into by a user (i.e. the keymaster 442 provides encryption keys to the GS 416, WGPS 414, and Internet Server 418) (col. 10, lines 23-24); and

redirecting new users to a login server to obtain a ticket consistent with new key (i.e. if the client does not provide a ticket or the ticket is invalid, the WGPS denies the HTTP request.

In response to a denial, the client sends a message to the GS requesting a ticket. The user authenticates himself or herself to the client by providing authentication information and the

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client provides this information to the GS. Assuming the user is authenticated, the GS uses the PS to look up the user in the database and determine the services in the walled garden to which the user has access. Then, the GS constructs a ticket including a bit field indicating the user's access rights, an expiration date, and other information. The PS preferably encrypts the ticket with the encryption key received from the keymaster and transmits the encrypted ticket to the client.) (col. 3, lines 4-18).

Brown does not teach changing a current key indication to the new key.

Audebert discloses a system and method for user authentication employing dynamic encryption variables (see Title)

Audebert teaches changing a current key indication to the new key (i.e. The encryption can be performed with the aid of an encryption key which is preferably the value of the current dynamic variable K_n , although any other secret key Q [block 34] may alternatively be used) (col. 9, lines 46-50).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the teaching of Brown with the teaching of Audebert to include changing a current key indication to the new key with the motivation to provide improved security against fraud. (Audebert, col. 4, lines 35-36).

The combination of Brown and Audebert does not teach allowing current logged in users to continue using the old key.

Olkin discloses a system that relates generally to providing security for communications in networks such as the Internet (col. 1, lines 6-7). Olkin teaches allowing current logged in users to continue using the old key (i.e. The expiration setting 48d allows a sender 12 to specify

when the security server 24 (FIG. 1) should discard a message key, and thus make the secure e-mail 14 unreadable. The default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration, but after some substantially long period of time [perhaps years] the security servers 24 in most embodiments of the secure e-mail system 10 will probably need to do so.) (col. 9, lines 25-31).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown and Audebert with the teachings of Olkin to include allowing current logged in users to continue using the old key with the motivation to minimally burden those using it (Olkin, col. 4, lines 33-34).

In regards to claim 28, Olkin teaches wherein the old key may be used by current logged in users for a predetermined amount of time (i.e. the default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration, but after some substantially long period of time [perhaps years] the security servers 24 in most embodiments of the secure e-mail system 10 will probably need to do so.) (col. 9, lines 28-31).

In regards to claim 30, Olkin teaches wherein the predetermined amount of time may be set to zero to force all current and new users to login with a ticket consistent with the new key version (i.e. the default will generally be to not explicitly force expiration) (col. 9, lines 28-29). The Examiner interprets the above to mean that although the default will generally be set to something other than zero, it could also be set to zero.

In regards to claim 31, Brown teaches wherein the ticket contains a version number (i.e. other information, such as the IP address of the client 112 and a timestamp may also be stored in the ticket 800) (col. 12, lines 20-22) consistent with the version number of the key which can decrypt it (i.e. the WSPGS uses the timestamp to determine the secret key used to encrypt the

ticket) (col. 12, lines 56-58). The Examiner interprets the timestamp to correspond to the version number.

In regards to claim 33, the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin does not teach wherein a new key is generated based on a request of the site.

Audebert teaches wherein a new key is generated based on a request of the site (i.e. the first and second generator means respectively include third and fourth calculating means for producing at least a first of the dynamic variables according to a function involving the number of access requests formulated by the first unit prior to the current access request in progress. It follows from this particularly advantageous feature that by virtue of the present invention, the updating of a first one of the dynamic variables, which is used for example as an encryption key, need not be performed periodically and does not require, in the second unit or server, any recalculation or "making up" of the value of the dynamic variable calculated in respect of a prior access request, as compared with the current value of this calculated dynamic variable residing in the first unit at the time an access request is formulated.) (col. 5, lines 16-29).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to further modify the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin with the teaching of Audebert to include wherein a new key is generated based on a request of the site with the motivation to provide improved security against fraud. (Audebert, col. 4, lines 35-36).

In regards to claim 35, Brown teaches wherein the keys are generated by an authentication server (i.e. keymaster), and are distributed to multiple login servers (i.e. GS, WGPS) for providing login tickets (i.e. the keymaster 442 occasionally shares 710 a secret key with the GS 416 and the WGPS 414 via an SSL connection) (col. 12, lines 23-25), (i.e. the user

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authenticates himself or herself to the client by providing authentication information and the client provides this information to the GS) (col. 3, lines 8-10). (Then the GS constructs a ticket) (col. 3, lines 13-14).

12. Claims 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Audebert (U.S. Patent 5,937,068), in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter) as applied to claim 28 above, in further view of Wasserman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,304,969 and Wasserman hereinafter).

In regards to claim 29, the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin teaches the method of claim 28 as discussed above.

The combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin does not teach wherein the predetermined amount of time is no more than a reauthorization time by which a current user is normally required to provide login information.

Wasserman discloses a system for verifying the authorization of a server to provide network resources to a client (see Abstract). Wasserman teaches wherein the predetermined amount of time is no more than a reauthorization time by which a current user is normally required to provide login information (i.e. when a security counter, or timer, exceeds the value of an expiration count stored at the client or at other selected times, an authorization interrupt is generated. The authorization interrupt eventually disables some or all of the functions of the client unless the server is authorized within an allotted period of time.) (col. 2, lines 48-57).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin with the

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teaching of Wasserman to include wherein the predetermined amount of time is no more than a reauthorization time by which a current user is normally required to provide login information with the motivation to verify the authorization of servers using a security system that cannot be readily accessed or overridden by an operator of the client system. (Wasserman, col. 2, lines 20-24.

13. Claims 32 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Audebert (U.S. Patent 5,937,068), in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter) as applied to claim 27, in further view of Biran (U.S. Patent 6,345,347).

The combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin teaches the method of claim 27 as discussed above.

The combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin does not teach wherein keys are encrypted by the site using a hardware address, and stored by the site.

Biran discloses a system that implements memory protection (col. 1, line 7). Biran teaches wherein keys are encrypted by the site using a hardware address, and stored by the site (i.e. Protection block 48 also holds a numerical key 43 whose value is a function of a physical address 41 of register 40, as shown in a key-entry step 66. The physical address is determined by the physical installation of I/O adapter 38 in computer 46. Thus, the numerical key is hardware-dependent and unique, since register 40 is assigned uniquely to application 34, and since register 40 has a unique hardware address.) (col. 6, lines 45-52).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin with the teachings of Biran to include wherein keys are encrypted by the site using a hardware address, and stored by the site with the motivation of for ensuring fully non-contentious addressing between a plurality of applications and a memory (Biran, col. 2, lines 20-22).

14. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,678,733 and Brown hereinafter) in view of Audebert (U.S. Patent 5,937,068), in further view of Olkin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,584,564 and Olkin hereinafter) as applied to claim 27, in further view of See et al. (U.S. Patent 6,070,243 and See hereinafter).

The combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin teaches the method of claim 27 as discussed above.

The combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin does not teach wherein keys are generated in an executable form which includes key information as well as code for decrypting tickets using the key information.

See teaches wherein keys are generated in an executable form which includes key information as well as code for decrypting tickets using the key information (i.e. An authentication agent is deployed on each of devices 10, 15. Turning to FIG. 4, a functional diagram of an authentication agent 400 residing on device 10 is shown. Agent 400 is preferably a software module implemented by management processor module 210. Agent 400 is configured with an address of device 10, an address of basic server 320 and an authentication key for server 320) (col. 5, lines 29-36).

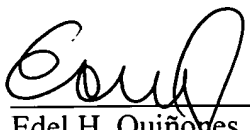
Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to modify the combination of Brown, Audebert and Olkin with the teachings of See to include wherein keys are generated in an executable form which includes key information as well as code for decrypting tickets using the key information with the motivation of combining the user-specific advantages of log-in challenges and the flexibility of VLANs into a deterministic user-based authentication and tracking service for local users of institutional communication networks (See, col. 2, lines 37-41).

Points of Contact


15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edel H Quiñones whose telephone number is 703-305-8745. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00AM-5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheik can be reached on 703-305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-305-3718.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.


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